

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated April 6, 2004, the Examiner has issued a restriction requirement, and stated there are two related sub-combinations which are distinct from one another. Specifically, the Examiner states that Group I (claims 1-38) is drawn to a relational database management system, and Group II (claims 39-97) is drawn to creating a multilevel hierarchy and creating a visual display, which constitute patentably distinct sub-combination. Applicants respectfully traverse these statements of the Examiner, as the search for both Group I and Group II would not be any different. However, Applicants provisionally elect to proceed with the claims from Group II (claims 39-97) for prosecution on the merits.

Applicants understand that if the Examiner does not agree with Applicants' position above, then the Examiner will withdraw the claims of Group I (claims 1-38) from further examination pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.142(b).

Appl. No. 09/744,618
Reply to Restriction Requirement
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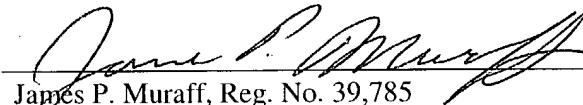
CONCLUSION

The Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned if the Examiner has any questions concerning this Reply or if it will expedite the progress of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 5/5/04

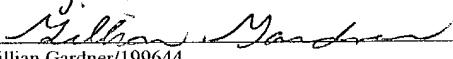
By:


James P. Muraff, Reg. No. 39,785
Wallenstein Wagner & Rockey, Ltd.
311 South Wacker Drive, 53rd Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60606-6630
312.554.3300

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. § 1.8a)

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May 5, 2004


Gillian Gardner

Gillian Gardner/199644

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